Message Text

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PASS LABOR FOR SEC. MARSHALL AND COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: ILO GOVERNING BODY - ROLE OF MEXICAN GOVT REPS

REF: A. STATE 28274 B. GENEVA 1317 NOTAL

1. IN SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH USDEL HOROWITZ, AMBASSADOR FERNANDO CASTRO Y CASTRO (GOM REPRESENTATIVE ON ILO GOVERNING BODY (GD) EMPHASIZED THAT NEW ADMINISTRATION IN MEXICO WANTS TO COOPERATE WITH USG. HIS COMMENTS WERE CLEARLY INTENDED TO BE CONVEYED TO WASHINGTON.

2. ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO USG AT THIS GB SESSION (REFTEL A) CASTRO INDICATED HE PLANNED TO SUPPORT US ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN FACT HE ABSTAINED IN VOTE. ON REVISION OF ARTICLE 17, CASTRO MADE STATEMENT IN PLENARY THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD SOME RESERVATIONS, IN PRINCIPLE HE FAVORED THE IDEA AND "HAD AN OPEN MIND" ON SUBJECT. AGAIN WE UNDERSTAND HE ABSTAINED IN VOTE, AS DID THREE CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER LATIN AMERICAN GOVT REPS. ON POSTPONEMENT OF WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE, GOM REP LOMBERA SUGGESTED THIS TO USDEL (REFTEL B) EARLY IN SESSION. AFTER ISSUE WAS DEBATED IN PLENARY, CASTRO SECONDED MOTION TO CANCEL MEETING OF WPS WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO JUNE CONFERENCE.

3. COMMENT: IN PAST SESSIONS OF ILO GB (AS WELL AS IN ANNUAL CONFERENCE) GOM REPS HAVE BEEN SOME OF THE LEADING RADICAL G-77 SPOKESMEN. CLEARLY NEW ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO MAKE SURE WASHINGTON KNOWS OF ITS STATED INTENTION TO BE HELPFUL ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO U.S. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW ITHS INTENT IS IMPLEMENTED IN THE ILO DURING THE NEXT FEW CRITICAL MONTHS IN US-ILO RELATIONS.CATTO

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